



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5158**

January Session, 2011

\* \_\_\_\_HB05158ENV\_\_031011\_\_\_\_ \*

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING BOW AND ARROW HUNTING ON SUNDAY  
UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 26-73 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 Sunday shall be a closed season except for hunting with bow and  
4 arrow and for the purpose of trapping under the provisions of this  
5 chapter. The possession in the open air on Sunday of any implement  
6 for hunting, except for bow and arrow, shall be prima facie evidence of  
7 hunting in violation of the provisions of this section. No provision of  
8 this section shall be construed so as to affect any provision of section  
9 26-31, 26-48, 26-52 or 27-35. [or apply to the use of bow and arrow for  
10 purposes other than hunting.] Artificially propagated birds designated  
11 by the commissioner may be shot on Sundays on licensed private  
12 shooting preserves subject to such regulations of the commissioner as  
13 may apply to such private shooting preserves, provided permission so  
14 to shoot has been obtained from the town or towns within which such  
15 licensed private shooting preserves are located. Any person who hunts  
16 on Sunday with bow and arrow pursuant to this section shall conduct  
17 such hunting in accordance and pursuant to the wildlife management  
18 principles and practices established by the Commissioner of  
19 Environmental Protection and have the written permission of the

20 private property owner where such person hunts on Sunday and carry  
21 such written permission upon his or her person while hunting with  
22 bow and arrow on Sunday. No person shall hunt with bow and arrow  
23 on Sunday pursuant to this section within forty yards of a blazed  
24 hiking trail.

25 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 26-86a of the general statutes is  
26 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
27 *October 1, 2011*):

28 (a) The commissioner shall establish by regulation adopted in  
29 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 standards for deer  
30 management, and methods, regulated areas, bag limits, seasons and  
31 permit eligibility for hunting deer with bow and arrow, muzzleloader  
32 and shotgun, except that no such hunting shall be permitted on  
33 Sunday by any means other than with bow and arrow. No person shall  
34 hunt, pursue, wound or kill deer with a firearm without first obtaining  
35 a deer permit from the commissioner in addition to the license  
36 required by section 26-27. Application for such permit shall be made  
37 on forms furnished by the commissioner and containing such  
38 information as he may require. Such permit shall be of a design  
39 prescribed by the commissioner, shall contain such information and  
40 conditions as the commissioner may require, and may be revoked for  
41 violation of any provision of this chapter or regulations adopted  
42 pursuant thereto. As used in this section, "muzzleloader" means a rifle  
43 or shotgun of at least forty-five caliber, incapable of firing a self-  
44 contained cartridge, which uses powder, a projectile, including, but  
45 not limited to, a standard round ball, mini-balls, maxi-balls and Sabot  
46 bullets, and wadding loaded separately at the muzzle end and "rifle"  
47 means a long gun the projectile of which is six millimeters or larger in  
48 diameter. The fee for a firearms permit shall be nineteen dollars for  
49 residents of the state and sixty-eight dollars for nonresidents, except  
50 that any nonresident who is an active full-time member of the armed  
51 forces, as defined in section 27-103, may purchase a firearms permit for  
52 the same fee as is charged a resident of the state. The commissioner

53 shall issue, without fee, a private land deer permit to the owner of ten  
 54 or more acres of private land and the husband or wife, parent,  
 55 grandparent, sibling and any lineal descendant of such owner,  
 56 provided no such owner, husband or wife, parent, grandparent, sibling  
 57 or lineal descendant shall be issued more than one such permit per  
 58 season. Such permit shall allow the use of a rifle, shotgun,  
 59 muzzleloader or bow and arrow on such land from November first to  
 60 December thirty-first, inclusive. Deer may be so hunted at such times  
 61 and in such areas of such state-owned land as are designated by the  
 62 Commissioner of Environmental Protection and on privately owned  
 63 land with the signed consent of the landowner, on forms furnished by  
 64 the department, and such signed consent shall be carried by any  
 65 person when so hunting on private land. The owner of ten acres or  
 66 more of private land may allow the use of a rifle to hunt deer on such  
 67 land during the shotgun season. The commissioner shall determine, by  
 68 regulation, the number of consent forms issued for any regulated area  
 69 established by said commissioner. The commissioner shall provide for  
 70 a fair and equitable random method for the selection of successful  
 71 applicants who may obtain shotgun and muzzleloader permits for  
 72 hunting deer on state lands. Any person whose name appears on more  
 73 than one application for a shotgun permit or more than one  
 74 application for a muzzleloader permit shall be disqualified from the  
 75 selection process for such permit. No person shall hunt, pursue,  
 76 wound or kill deer with a bow and arrow without first obtaining a  
 77 bow and arrow permit pursuant to section 26-86c. "Bow and arrow" as  
 78 used in this section and in section 26-86c means a bow with a draw  
 79 weight of not less than forty pounds. The arrowhead shall have two or  
 80 more blades and may not be less than seven-eighths of an inch at the  
 81 widest point. No person shall carry firearms of any kind while hunting  
 82 with a bow and arrow under this section and section 26-86c.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	26-73
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Sec. 2	October 1, 2011	26-86a(a)
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**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*